

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

1. Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 4 as follows:

As shown in FIG. 1, in one implementation of the invention, tree structures are used to represent a computer program. These representations are used to generate and validate one or more executable programs, as will be described. The representations can include a tree structure defining the implementation modules, in this particular case, classes to be implemented 100, and a tree structure defining the definition modules, in this particular case, the associated interfaces 105. It is advantageous to define the implementation modules and the definition modules using a language-independent representation. A language-independent language-independent representation is not restricted to any particular programming language used to implement an executable program. In one exemplary implementation, the implementation modules and the definition modules can be specified in a language that can be used as a meta-language, e.g., Extensible Markup Language (XML), Extended Backus-Naur Form (EBNF), Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1), or LISP.